IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): K. AOTA ET AL.

Serial No.: New U.S. Divisional Application

(Corresponds to Appln. Ser. No. 09/546,563

Filed: April 11, 2000)

Filed: April 10, 2001

For: EXTRUDED FRAME MEMBER FOR USE IN FRICTION

STIR WELDING

Group Art Unit: 1725

Examiner: K. Stoner

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

April 10, 2001

SIR:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 on page 1, and substitute therefor the following:

-- This application is a Divisional application of application Serial No. 09/546,563, filed April 11, 2000, which is a Divisional application of application Serial No. 09/025,070, filed February 17, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. --.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the first page of their specification in order to refer to all prior applications, of the above-identified application, being relied upon under 35 USC \$120. Clearly, the amendment to the specification does not add new matter to the application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The first page of the marked-up version is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

Entry of the present amendments, and examination of the above-identified application in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (503.35933VV5) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

William I. Solomon Registration No. 28,565

Registration No. 28

WIS:alw (703) 312-6600

ATTACHMENT A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1, has been amended as follows:

This application is a Divisional application of application Serial No. 09/546,563, filed April 11, 2000, which is a Divisional application of application Serial No. 09/025,070, filed February 17, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference to their entirety.